


State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®)

English I and II

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English I and II Statewide Distributions 2014 (First-time Testers)

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2014 Expository Summed Scores		2014 Persuasive Summed Scores	
1/1 = 2	7%	1/1 = 2	7%
1/2 = 3	8%	1/2 = 3	9%
2/2 = 4	39%	2/2 = 4	32%
2/3 = 5	21%	2/3 = 5	21%
3/3 = 6	18%	3/3 = 6	20%
3/4 = 7	4%	3/4 = 7	6%
4/4 = 8	1%	4/4 = 8	3%

The Scoring Scale

The Distinctions Between Summed Scores

3

Very Limited

Very Limited to Basic

Basic

Scores of

2, 3, 4

Basic

Basic to Satisfactory

Satisfactory

Scores of

4, 5, 6

Satisfactory

Satisfactory to Accomplished

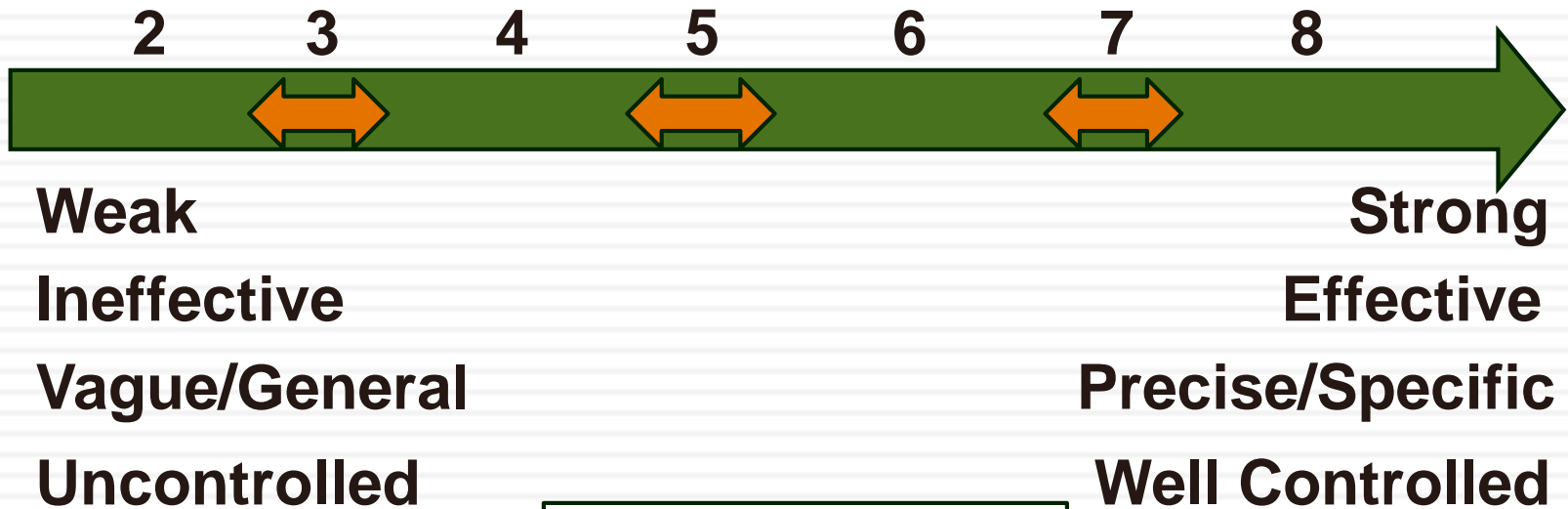
Accomplished

Scores of

6, 7, 8

The Scoring Continuum

4



**PROGRESSION
DEVELOPMENT
WORD CHOICE
SENTENCES
CONVENTIONS**

2014 English I Expository Prompt

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Read the following quotation.

The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time you fall.

—*Nelson Mandela*

Think carefully about the following question.

Can failure make you stronger?

Write an essay explaining whether failure can strengthen a person.

English I Expository

The High End of a Very Limited Performance

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Failure can strengthen a person, because once you fall, you have to get back up and keep going. Life is like a roller coaster it has its ups and downs. Once you fail it doesn't mean for you to quit. It just means that you need to try harder, and work harder. If you fail on something don't quit don't be a quitter. Just keep going with life and try harder until you accomplish. "The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time you fall." Just remember that life goes on no matter what happens. Follow your dreams, and goals, and if you fail don't quit. The most difficult way, may not be the only way.

English I Expository

The Low End of a Basic Performance

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Failure makes me stronger because you never do the same mistakes twice. I learn from my mistakes, so I will never do the same failure. Learning from your mistakes can make you successful later on in life because you become stronger. Always makes you think twice ever since the mistake because you know to not do the same failure. Once I didnt study or even did my homework last year for math, so I failed the math STAAR and this year I know not to mess up.

Having to become stronger you have to use your brain. Have to be smart to know not to do the same mistake twice. I got sent to “ALC”

English I Expository

The Low End of a Basic Performance

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before and regret getting sent there; so I did good the whole time and got out sooner than I was suppose to be in there. Although, sometimes you make the same mistakes you will one day learn the hard way or the easy way.

English I Expository

The High End of a Basic Performance

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Each and every time you fail you can learn a lesson. A failure is also known as a mistake. When you make a mistake all you have done is found a way that does not work.

When you are unsuccessful or disappointed about something you can either take the lesson and learn from it so that it benefits you, or let it break you down. At one point in everybodys life they have done something wrong and have either been strengthened by it or weekend.

The way someone can get stronger is to learn from it and move on. Once you have messed up

English I Expository

The High End of a Basic Performance

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and done something wrong do not just sit there and be frustrated about it. It's in the past you can't change it now, all you can do is know not to do that next time.

When you make a mistake and learn from it you are more likely to get it right the next time around. The next time you fail at something don't get down on your self just learn from it and try again.

English I Expository

The Low End of a Satisfactory Performance

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Failure is a term that many people fear. Many people fear that if you fail you have lost everything you have worked for, and in some cases that is true. Failure is also something that can help you want it more that you did before. Failure can also make you stronger. Failure can make you stronger by giving you experience, and also by making you a tougher person.

When you fail, it gives you more experience than you had before you failed. When you fail, it drops you back, but when you reach the spot where you failed, you know what not to do. For

English I Expository

The Low End of a Satisfactory Performance

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example, if you are playing a video game and you die, you know what not to do next time.

When you fail, it makes you tougher. When you fail, you might feel a stronger motive to get back up and succeed. That makes you a tougher person. With the stronger motive to succeed, it will be harder for you to fail. If you fail you become tougher because you wont make the same mistakes you made before.

In conclusion, you become a stronger, more experienced person when you fail. Sometimes failure is helpful to you because of the stronger person you become afterwards.

English I Expository

The High End of a Satisfactory Performance

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There is strength in failure. Some of the greatest people in history have failed many times in their life. Every person will fail at least once in their life and that will make them stronger. Failure can strengthen them by motivating them to do better next time, creating opportunity for them, and keeping their attitude in check.

In sports when someone loses a game they get angry and practice harder so next time they will be ready to take on that team and win. The greatest athletes in history have all failed but have been strengthened through it.

English I Expository

The High End of a Satisfactory Performance

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Not only will it motivate someone but it also creates opportunity. Again if someone loses a game it creates an opportunity to show them where they need to get better. They will fix that problem and come out next time different and better. Without failing they would never have gotten that opportunity and gotten better.

If someone never fails they begin to get a big ego and people start not to like them. Failing keeps them in check and makes sure they know they aren't everything. When Lebron, Bosh, and Wade all got together on one team their ego went

English I Expository

The High End of a Satisfactory Performance

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way up and they got cocky. They did not win the championship in the NBA finals and that put their ego in check and now they are better as a team.

Whether failure strengthens a person is up to them. They have to decide how to come back from it. If you make the right descisions though you can benefit from it and become stronger.

English I Expository

The Low End of an Accomplished Performance

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The world is full of people. Throughout history people have made mistakes. One wrong move and you fall on your face. Elect the wrong man and the world goes to war. Turn down the wrong road and your paralyzed for life. Failure scares the world. How will you take it? Do you lay down and get infected or do you get up and put on a bandage.

Just because you fail doesn't mean you should quit. In life when you make a choice you are expected to deal with the consequences. That means you don't spoil your winnings or burn your third place medal. People deal with loss in

English I Expository

The Low End of an Accomplished Performance

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different ways. No matter how you do it, the point is you do it. Ask for some help getting back up and walk away.

If you fail you are given the ability to learn from it. Every man needs a touch of humility and failure is the number one source. You always get something for everything you do. Hopefully once in a while you get a lesson. The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results. Failure gives you room to change.

Experience is everything. What you do and say is an example of what you know. That is how we shape the world.

2014 English II Persuasive Prompt

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Read the following quotation.

The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.
—*from I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*
by Dr. Seuss

Think carefully about the following statement.

According to Dr. Seuss, knowledge leads to new opportunities.

Write an essay stating your position on whether learning always has a positive effect on a person's life.

English II Persuasive

The High End of a Basic Performance

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In life all we do is learn, as we grow we learn we feed our brain with knowledge, whether its simple facts or little nuggets of wisdom it all goes to one place. Learning is the purpose in life, and really only good can come from learning.

Things like learning from your mistakes will keep you from making that some mistake again. And there are many ways of learning, and some just prefer visual and others may prefer hands on. Learning in our different ways gives us experience for the future. But the knowledge we have now determines our grades and grades

English II Persuasive

The High End of a Basic Performance

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determine our future. If we don't learn we won't know much and honestly how can you communicate with someone who doesn't know much. What would you talk about? Even peoples interest in certain things causes them to want to learn. Because of learning our knowledge will lead us to new opportunities.

As long as learning and growing continue to coincide we can always look forward to a brighter future. If learning continues being the guide to our lives then our lives will be happy. Because only good can come from learning.

English II Persuasive

The Low End of a Satisfactory Performance

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The famous adage, “Knowledge is power,” demonstrates that knowledge is essential to a successful life. It is for this reason that learning is beneficial, as this process helps both individuals and society grow.

As people mature, learning is necessary and encouraged. Early lessons on right and wrong shape moral standards for the rest of an individual’s life. Problem solving is one of the first skills parents teach their children as it stimulates creativity and intelligence. Without learning these lessons, the world would be full of immoral, ignorant people.

English II Persuasive

The Low End of a Satisfactory Performance

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In addition, society benefits from learning and as a result, continuously advances. Learning stimulates growth in medicine, science, and technology, helping the world progress. Society learns from political mistakes and incorporates this information to create a better, more peaceful world.

All in all, growth of knowledge benefits individuals and society.

English II Persuasive

The Low End of an Accomplished Performance

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As an ignorant, teenage high school student, sometimes what we learn seems pointless and meaningless to my life. When will I ever use the quadratic formula as a dance studio owner? Why do I care about the molar mass of O_2 ? What does knowing the theme of Antigone help me with? Despite these thoughts I occasionally have, I do believe learning always has a positive effect on a person's life.

Beside the fact that knowledge is power and knowing things can help in life, the process of learning is positive. It starts with not knowing something, then being introduced to it. Then you

English II Persuasive

The Low End of an Accomplished Performance

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think about it, struggle with it, and the light bulb turns on and you have learned something. This process is fulfilling and can lead to more discoveries.

Even learning something not relevant to my life or my future is positive. For one, you can never be sure what might come up and what information you'll need. Other than that, it's just amazing that we can understand such concepts and make sense of them. Our alphabet is just scribbles and marks that we read and write to mean much more. Our system of numbers that we can manipulate to form equations. Just the fact

English II Persuasive

The Low End of an Accomplished Performance

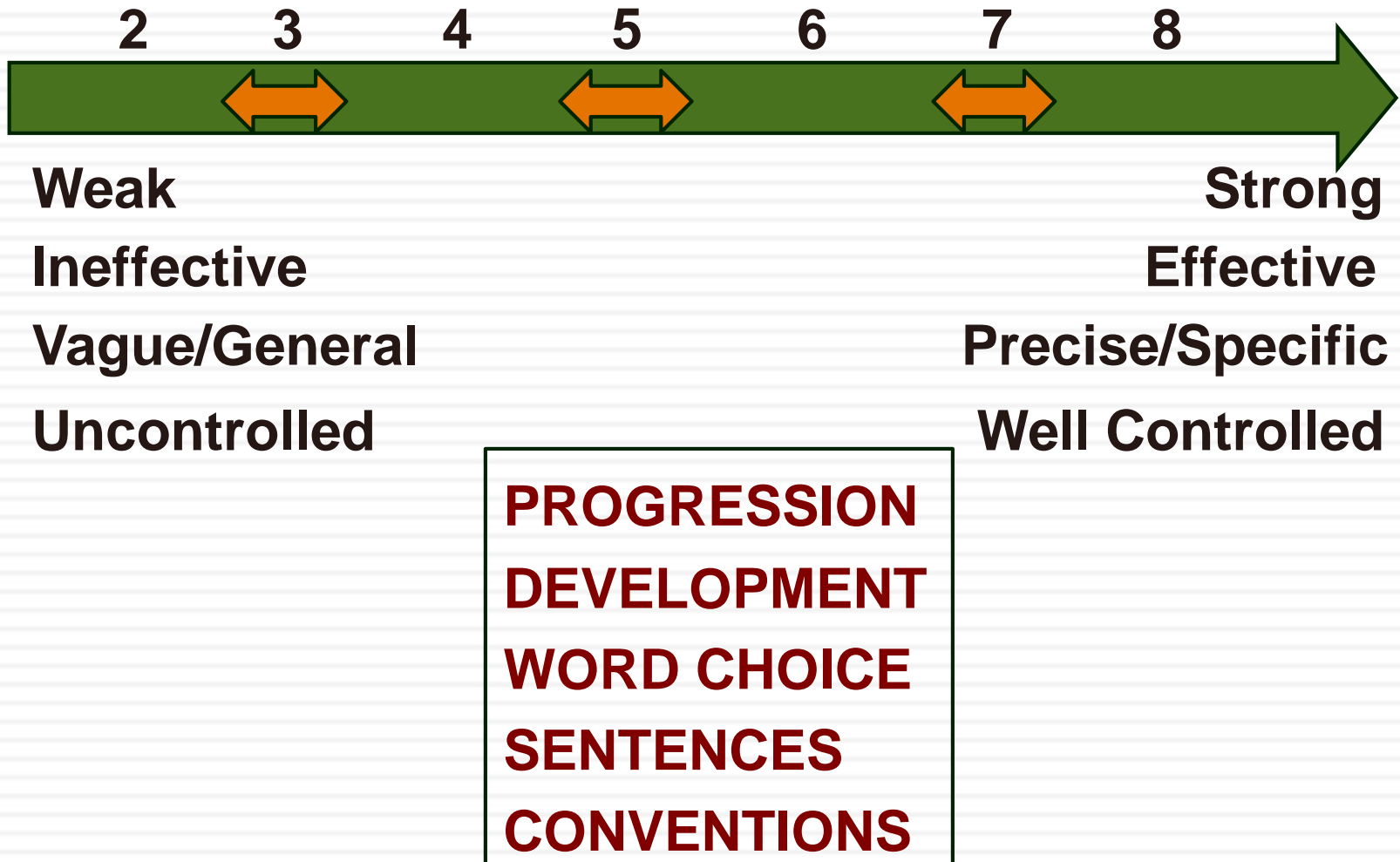
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that a person can comprehend such things is amazing.

Learning makes us stronger, smarter, and more fit to survive. So, think next time before you decide to take a nap in algebra class, because you might be missing out on the positive and encouraging experience of learning.

Know where students are on the scoring continuum and work from there!

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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